

Town of Tyringham  
Planning Board Meeting  
7:00 PM Feb 4, 2015  
Town Hall, Tyringham, Ma 01264

Approved Minutes

In Attendance: Robin Almgren, Mike Curtin, Christina Alsop, Holly Ketron, April Roche

Public Present: None

**Mail: Town of Tyringham:**

**Town of Monterey** curtesy notices: Board of Appeals hearing notice for 16 Point Rd. March 12. 2015

**Minutes** of 1/14/15 were approved.

**New Business:**

Filling the PB position left by Rich Biasin's resignation came into discussion. Rich communicated to Christina that his term ended in 2017, therefore it would be a two year term that is up for election in the spring. A few names were suggested and will be contacted by board members before the next meeting.

Mike Curtin reported a complaint concerning the zoning bylaw's allowance of the construction of two separate garages being built on Cooper Creek Rd. Apparently a two car garage was not allowed in this instance due to set back requirements. The Board agreed to review the bylaw.

**Old Business:**

Small Wind Energy Systems (SWES) again came under review. Robin took the stance that the opportunity for SWES is unavailable in Tyringham without the tower exceeding 140 feet. There was some consideration of allowing by right any wind structures less than 36 feet (the current height restriction of structures in the town bylaws), but Robin expressed the concern that height restrictions can cause problems in the future, preferring applicants to come before the board with their proposals. Holly and Christina argued that much smaller wind turbines already have the ability to support an agricultural community by pumping water, irrigation, and providing additional small amounts of energy, and that the technology making small wind viable in the future could be beneficial to the residents and farms of Tyringham. April pointed out that there had been silos in the valley that reached 90 feet, and Mike added there had been a radio tower higher than that. The point being that we have lived with some moderately tall structures. However we all agreed that the PB board wanted some control over the erection of such smaller wind structures and therefore the clause allowing small wind was scratched. To replace it is a requirement for a special permit for small wind energy systems SWES, and the proposal reads as follows.

- 1) Add a new definition to Section 2 for the term 'Large Scale Wind Energy Facility.

**Large Scale Wind Energy Facility:** All equipment, machinery and structures utilized in connection with the conversion of wind to electricity. This includes but is not limited to transmission, storage, collection and supply equipment, substations, towers, wind turbines, foundations, service roads and other appurtenant structures, facilities and equipment.

- 2) Add a new section 4.5
- 4.5 Prohibited uses
- 4.5.1. Large scale wind energy is prohibited
- 4.5.2 Small Wind Energy Systems require a special permit.

The board will vote on this next meeting Feb 18, 2015.

Robin also encouraged a review of the bylaws as we are finding a few discrepancies and outdated clauses that need attention.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM  
Our next meeting will be Feb 18, 2015

Respectfully submitted by Christina Alsop